AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT:

Please replace the paragraph (Abstract) beginning at page 34, line 3 with the following rewritten version:

An X-ray inspection apparatus (10) is provided with a shied box (11), a conveyor (12), an X-ray irradiator (13), an X-ray line sensor (14), a monitor (26), and a control computer (20) to enable the apparatus to inspect an article by automatically selecting an appropriate image processing procedure that is most appropriate for the article. The control computer 20 creates function blocks comprising an image forming section (31a), an image processing procedure adoption determination unit (31b), and a contaminant determination unit (31e) as a CPU (21) loads various programs stored in a memory units such as HDD (25).